

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

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#### NATIONAL UNDERGROUND RAILROAD NETWORK TO FREEDOM PROGRAM

### Symposium to Examine Historical Links Between Haiti and the U.S. in conjunction with Haiti Bicentennial and UN International Year Commemoration Against Slavery

Dates: 06/29/2004 - 06/29/2004

Times: 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Location: Washington, DC

The Toussaint L'Overture Historical Society in cooperation with the U.S. National Park Service, National Capital Parks - East, will present a free educational symposium entitled "Haiti a Renaissance for Hope," *Commemorating the 200th Anniversary of Haiti's Independence and its Historical Relationship with the United States of America*, on Tuesday, June 29, 2004 in Washington, DC.

The symposium, which will focus on the historical linkages between Haiti and the United States and how these linkages influenced African American History, will be held on Tuesday, June 29, 2004, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at:

Sidney Yates Auditorium  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

The event coincides with the Smithsonian Institution annual Folklife Festival, which will feature Haiti, from June 23 thru 27 and June 30 thru July 4, 2004 on the National Mall. For more information on the festival, visit <http://www.folklife.si.edu>.

The United Nations has proclaimed 2004 the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition. Consistent with this theme, the symposium will foster a greater understanding of the historical connections that shape the United States' present day policies toward Haiti. A panel of expert scholars and the topics they will discuss include:

- Dr. John O'Connor, University of New Orleans; *Haitian Revolution and the Louisiana Purchase*
- Dr. Leon Pamphile, Author, *Haiti and the African-American Experience*
- Dr. Barbara Ballard, Marymount Manhattan College, New York City, NY; *Frederick Douglass and the Haiti Experience*
- Mr. Mason Weaver; *Haiti - Vision for the Future*

Toussaint L'Overture (1743 to 1803) was pioneer of the Haitian Revolution and the inspiration for the worldwide resistance against slavery. Abolitionist Frederick Douglass (circa 1818 to 1895) was an author, editor, U.S. Marshal for the District of Columbia, and U.S. Minister to Haiti.

Visit the U.S. Department of the Interior Museum exhibit, At Home with Frederick Douglass [phone: 202-208-4743; website: <http://www.doi.gov/museum/mission.htm>]. Original furnishings, art and personal effects from Douglass' Anacostia home Cedar Hill evoke his daily life in Washington, DC during his last 17 years. His appointment and service as U.S. Minister to Haiti are interpreted in a supplementary photographic display.

For more details, see the symposium information and related resources by selecting the InsideNPS links and weblinks below.

#### Related Resources

[Haiti Educational Symposium June 2004 Information \(PDF\)](#)

[Toussaint L'Overture Historical Society Information \(PDF\)](#)

Toussaint L'Overture Historical Society website at: <http://www.toussaintlouverturehs.org/>

Frederick Douglass National Historic Website at: <http://www.nps.gov/frdo/>

National Park Service National Capital Parks-East Website at: <http://www.nps.gov/nace/>

National Park Service National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program Website at: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/ugrr/>

U.S. Department of the Interior Museum website at: <http://www.doi.gov/museum/mission.htm>

[Smithsonian Institution Folklife Festival Haiti Information \(PDF\)](#)

Smithsonian Institution Folklife Festival website at: <http://www.folklife.si.edu/>

Smithsonian Institution Website at: <http://www.si.edu/>

Trinity College Haiti-USA Program website at: <http://www.haiti-usa.org/>

*United Nations International Year to Commemorate the Struggle Against Slavery and its Abolition*

[Overview \(PDF\)](#)

[Brochure \(PDF\)](#)

[Poster \(PDF\)](#)

[Website](#)

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